Sachiko Takeuchi
ハニー
honey & honey
ハニー
女の子どうしのラブ・カップル
honey
竹内佐千子

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~honey & honey~

Takeuchi Sachiko

From Tokyo. Blood type B
Winner of the third "Da Vinci"
Comic Essay Petit Award.

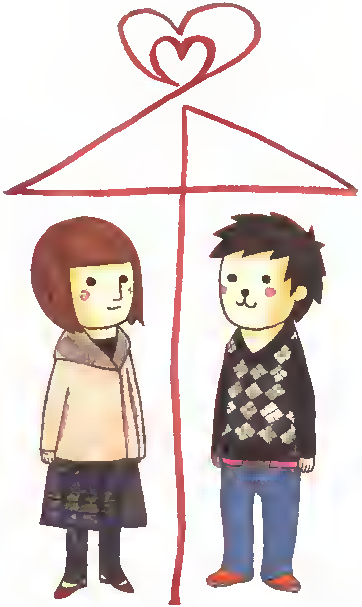
She's been romantically interested in women since junior high. She'd like for people to enjoy reading this work, and for many people to learn of the existence of the world it depicts.

Her interests include art, music, and anime.

http://sachinock.gooside.com/

Takeuchi Sachiko

The thing they are standing under is a modified "ai ai gasa" ("love love umbrella") the Japanese equivalent of a heart with two names in it. Normally just the names are put under it and it doesn't typically have a heart on top



Sachiko	Masako
Has liked girls since junior high. Her favorite food is imoyoukan.[2]	Romantically interested in both guys and girls. Her favorite food is okonomiyaki.[1]

1. A pancake like dish made with flour, water, eggs and one's preferred ingredients. The name literally means something like "as you like it."

2. Bars of jellied sweet potato

Foreword

I'm Takeuchi Sachiko. It's nice to meet you. It might be a bit forward to say this right off the bat, but I have a lover. Her name is Masako. She's a girl. ...So am I, naturally. That's right. I'm a "lesbian," as they say.

To most people, the lesbian world seems like just a myth. They wonder if it even exists at all. But that world is my reality. The lesbian world isn't just confined to the yuri world, which always seems to involve romances with "Onee-sama" at all-girl schools. (laugh)

I don't know yet why it is that I'm a lesbian. It feels like I've always been this way, from the first time I developed romantic feelings for someone. When you're living in the bian (another word for lesbian) world,* people often ask if you've had to go through a lot of things, but the truth is that I haven't. Not at all... I actually feel like there have been more fun things than difficult things in my life.

*In Japan, "bian" is used by lesbians to refer to themselves. Like "dyke" in the West, but without the potentially negative connotations.

People tend to think of the bian world as being really different from the straight world, but aside from the fact that we fall in love with girls, we're just like everyone else. We fall in love, and confess our feelings to those we love... We go out on dates and get our hearts broken just like straight couples.

But the romantic coupling of two women might seem like a new discovery to ordinary people... they might think it's something surprising. So I'm using this manga to depict the mythical lesbian world.

This is the story of Sachiko and Masako. I don't think every bian couple is just like them, but it would make me happy if the story surprised some straight readers and made some bian readers nod in agreement at parts.

I think this is a risqué theme, one that people have a variety of opinions on, but if my readers have even a smidgen of interest in the material and enjoy reading it, I'll be glad. Well then, please enjoy~!

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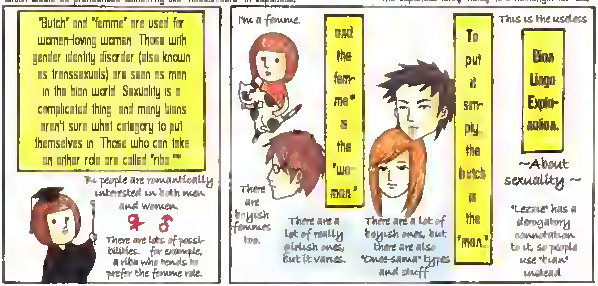
Masako and Sachiko

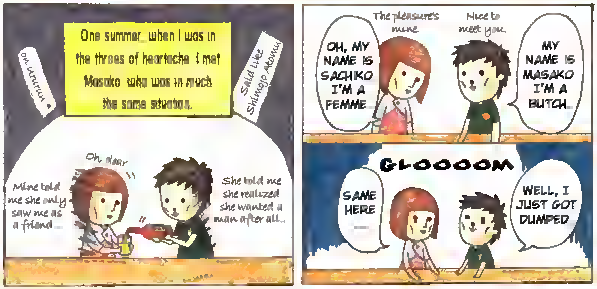
Our first meeting...
shriek
The truth is we're a couple
I'm a woman.
I'm Sachi-ko
She's a woman
This is Masako
My friend Kana-chan She likes girls too
HOW BLEAK!!
She's so depressed!!
Hello..
RRRRRR
start
chung chung chung
was in the summer right when I'd gotten my heart broken by another woman.
They have those!!
What a shock!
IT'S ONLY FOR WOMEN! IT'LL BE REALLY EXCITING!!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYIN'?!
HEY- LET'S GO TO A MIXER IT'LL HELP YOU GET OVER HER!
A mixer!
No way I wanna meet women!
Whoa!

It was all women!!
Well, duh
Sachikooo
Lilies
Woooooow!
The day of the mixer my heart was pounding as I made my way to the meeting place...
I hadn't gotten any sleep
I was dressed up to the nines though
Girls
You're so cute.
Not at all!
She's even hitting on her
Woman
How ya doin?
Woman.
Nice to meet you!
I HEARD THE BUTCH-SAN NEXT TO YOU JUST GOT DUMPED RECENTLY TOO
Ohhhh?
Talk to her!
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU GAPING AT?
Menu
Sigh
I wonder what sort of group the people around us think this is...?
A class reunion? Or no, maybe an athletic team going out for drinks...?

*This probably comes from the English word "reversible," which would be pronounced something like "nhoosh-hum" in Japanese.

*The Japanese term, "neko," is a homonym for "cat."





"Butch" and "femme" are used for women-loving women. Those with gender identity disorder (also known as transsexuals) are seen as men in the bian world. Sexuality is a complicated thing, and many bians aren't sure what category to put themselves in. Those who can take on either role are called "rhoo"*

The people are romantically interested in both men and women.

There are lots of possibilities... for example, a rhoo who tends to prefer the femme role.

I'm a femme.

There are boyish femmes too.

and the femme* is the "woman."

There are a lot of really girlish ones, but it varies.

There are a lot of boyish ones, but there are also "Omee-sama" types and stuff.

To put it simply, the butch is the "man."

This is the useless

Bian Lingo Exploration.

~About sexuality~

"Lezzie" has a derogatory connotation to it, so people use "bian" instead.

How bleak!!!

Oh, hi...

When I turned to look at her

Next to me...

One summer, when I was in the throes of heartache, I met Masako, who was in much the same situation.

Oh, Urunun*

Said like Shinojo Akiou

Oh, dear

Mine told me she only saw me as a friend...

She told me she realized she wanted a man after all...

The pleasure's mine.

Nice to meet you.

OH, MY NAME IS SACHIKO I'M A FEMME

MY NAME IS MASAKO I'M A BUTCH.

GLOOOOM

SAME HERE...

WELL, I JUST GOT DUMPED

*Urunun is a TV show, and Shinojo Akiou is an actor who's one of the narrators for it.

"An area of Tokyo

That was fast!!
There's no mood.
BE MY GIRL-FRIE-ND
?
On the way home from our first date
I HAD FUN~~! LET'S DO THIS AGAIN SOME-TIME.
My stomach falling for her
*About 20 pounds
Both of us have gained about 10 kg* since then
HEY, YOU KNOW.
Five months later
Mmm
A cute femme.
Wow you just dropped a bombshell
AT THAT MIXER WHERE WE FIRST MET. I THOUGHT MIYU-SAN WAS CUTE
Oh please be good to me, then.
Same here.
She said yes, and that was it-- we were a couple!
Ooh
Let's go out together sometime
Sachiko-chan.
Femme
Butch
So she was asking me out.
Well...I certainly had an unusual experience with my girlfriend that summer
Just because I didn't have a chance with her!
Oh, but it's not like I went out with you
I have something completely different on my mind
Oh—!
WHAAAAT?!
BUT IT TURNS OUT THAT SHE'S A BUTCH, AND SHE WAS IN LOVE WITH YOU BACK THEN

Honey & Honey

Chapter 1

A Lillicious Project
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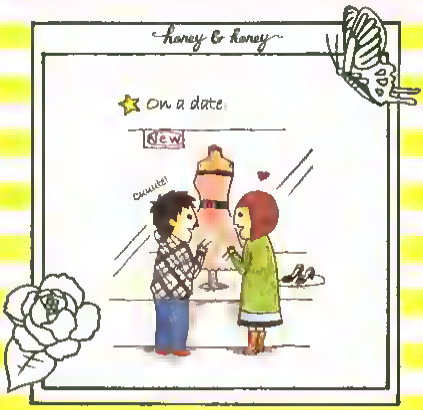
Edited by: Sailor Avalon
QC'd by: Shiko sensei,
The Lory and
Tiny Snowfairy

A Romantic Bian Date



*A reference to the title character of the manga *Golgo 13*. He has very thick eyebrows.

At times like this, I'm glad she's a woman. Sometimes she plays jokes on me, though.
?
pf
She's good at putting on makeup.
I'm terrible at filling in my eyebrows so I have Masako do it for me sometimes
Do it for me.
Ouch!
I WONDER WHY THEY ONLY OFFER WOMEN A DISCOUNT?
Yeah
That will be 1000 yen."
After all, it's Ladies' Day there today.
How about The Phantom of the Opera?
What do you wanna see?
Now that my eyebrows are fixed we're off to the movie theater.
*About 8 US dollars
OH! SO THE MAN PAYS?
gasp
There are probably exceptions to that rule, though.
BUT SINCE THE MAN'S PAYING FOR BOTH OF THEM ANYWAY, DON'T YOU THINK HE'S GLAD TO BE PAYING LESS FOR THE WOMAN'S TICKET?
I WONDER IF MALE-FEMALE COUPLES ARGUE ABOUT GOING TO THE MOVIES. IF THE MAN'S TICKET IS 1000 YEN AND THE WOMAN'S IS 1000, THAT'S A BIG DISCREPANCY THERE
Hmmm

I didn't realize Masaki had so much experience... I have mixed feelings about it...
Huh?
Huh? What's wrong?!
I haven't.
She's dated men before.
?
PHOTO B
Come on, come on!
HM?
Men may only enter if accompanied by women.
Couples are allowed
I wasn't in a bad mood to begin with, though.
OK! LET'S HIT THAT PHOTO BOOTH!!
Yeah. That'll cheer you up!
THAT WAS INTERESTING!
OH!!
She's in high spirits.
Crane game.
How cute. I want one
WHAT IS IT?
Sometimes it seems like gender issues are popping up everywhere we turn.
MEN CAN'T GO IN THERE WITHOUT WOMEN~ I FEEL SORRY FOR ALL THE GAY MEN OUT THERE
Funny face!
SNAP

We've both blown all our money on the crane game before
gasp
L-LET'S JUST FOR-GET IT LET'S FOR-GET IT...
YEAH LET'S GO GET SOMETHING TO EAT INSTEAD.
gasp
They're new!
OHH! HOW CUTE!!
We're both women and we both love stuffed animals... So neither of us really says things like "I'll get that for you" or "Let's skip now." That gets us in trouble
Wow!
I got a new friend!
Yeah. Let's skip after this one.
Let's skip after this one.
Two hours later..
← We even got stuff like this...
Our romantic bian date continues on
Sure!
WANT TO SPEND THE NIGHT AT MY PLACE?
←officially we live separately
I WONDER IF WE STILL HAVE TIME TO GET DINNER TOGETHER
WE DID IT AGAIN...
Yeah They're so cute, though!

A Hint of Jealousy

Honey & Honey

Chapter 2

A Lilitlicious Project
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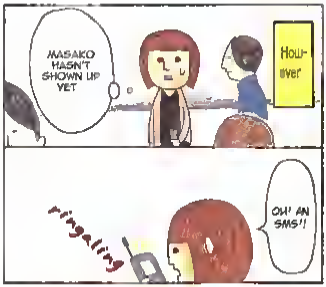
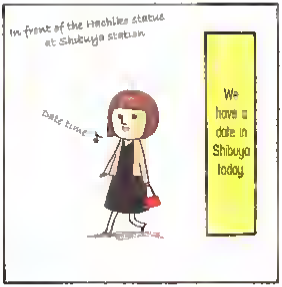
Another Romantic Bian Date


MASAKO HASN'T SHOWN UP YET
How-ever
ringaling
OH! AN SMS!!


In front of the Hachiko statue at Shibuya station
Date time
We have a date in Shibuya today

I'm mad
drag drag
Aaack!

I'm standing right next to you!! The woman next to me is so gorgeous that I don't want to move! C'mon over here! Hurry!
Masako
What?

So do I
Yes!
BUT SHE WAS PRETTY, WASN'T SHE?
But still

Masako likes beautiful women
HONESTLY! WHAT WERE YOU THINKING? I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU MADE ME WAIT FOR YOU OVER THAT!!
You even write, "C'mon over here! Hurry!" The nerve!
I'm sorry

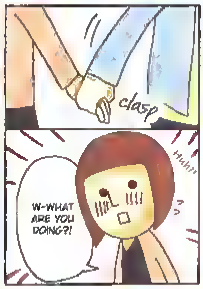
*Beautiful young man

WERE YOU CLASSMATES BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL?
don't worry more you from school
I can't tell my friends from school that she's my girlfriend.
Yeah
Nice to meet ya.
OUT SHOPPING WITH A FRIEND?
SHE
See you later!
SEEING THEM TOGETHER LIKE THAT MAKES ME FEEL A LITTLE LONELY
Bye bye
YEAH, I MEAN, WE'RE ON A DATE TOO BUT...
We can't tell them
I'm sorry I lied.
Y-YEAH
Ah.
Masahiro is two years younger than me.
We shouldn't
This is pretty kind
This is steamy
There've been other times when we've felt a little lonely because we were on a date but couldn't do things like holding hands.
Holding hands
Holding her arm.
Whoa! There's two women!!
Someone really said that to us

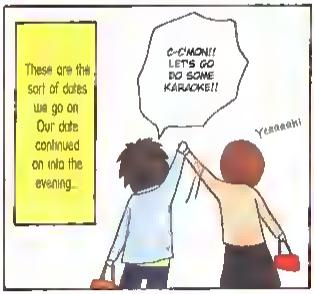
Hm ?
Kiss me ?
Hey
I DON'T WANT TO KISS IN PUBLIC!!
Oh it just came out

Yeah!
Sigh
I HOPE A DAY WILL COME WHEN I CAN INTRODUCE YOU TO MY FRIENDS AS MY GIRLFRIEND AND HOLD YOUR HAND AND KISS YOU IN PUBLIC

THERE AREN'T MANY PEOPLE AROUND SO I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE OKAY...
She's so courageous


clasp
W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

We're going to go sing some karaoke now right?


These are the sort of dates we go on. Our date continued on into the evening...
C-C'MON!! LET'S GO DO SOME KARAOKE!!
Yeaaaah!

We were both pretty shy about it since we almost never hold hands

honey

The Reason

And besides all the women who work here are so cute
At the lingerie store.
I'm going to get pay
Sachi-kooo! I'm going to get this one!
!!!
3
1
4
2
Oh, I see
to try it on!!
that I'm too embarrassed
No way!
I'm sure I want this one!
Whaaat? Shouldn't you try it on first?

Honey & Honey

Chapter 3

A Lililicious Project
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QC'd by The Lory
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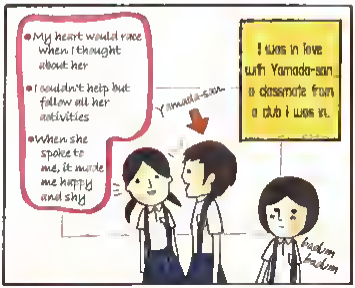
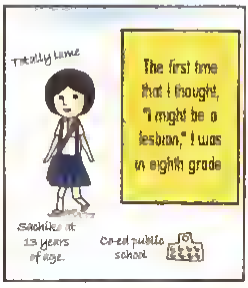
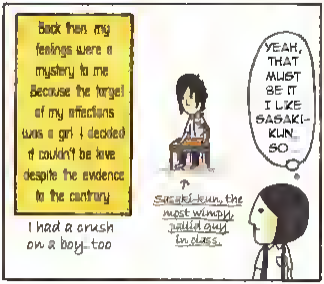
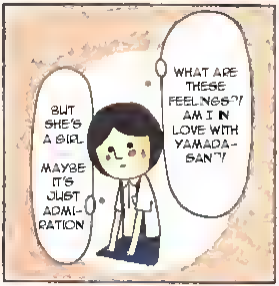
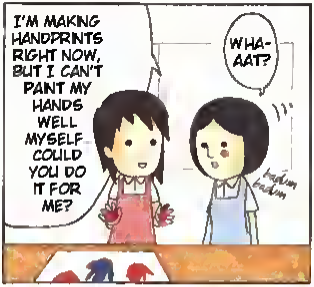
honey & honey
Painting each others nails.

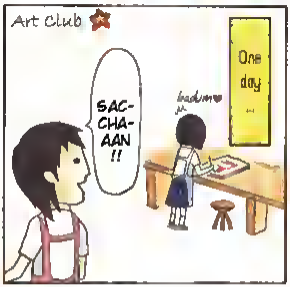

I was in love with Yamada-san a classmate from a club I was in.
Yamada-san
• My heart would race when I thought about her
• I couldn't help but follow all her activities
• When she spoke to me, it made me happy and shy
badum badum


The first time that I thought, "I might be a lesbian," I was in eighth grade
Twenty-nine
Sachiko at 13 years of age.
Co-ed public school


Back then my feelings were a mystery to me. Because the target of my affections was a girl I decided it couldn't be love despite the evidence to the contrary
I had a crush on a boy too
YEAH, THAT MUST BE IT I LIKE SASAKI-KUN, SO
Sasaki-kun, the most wimpy, pallid guy in class.

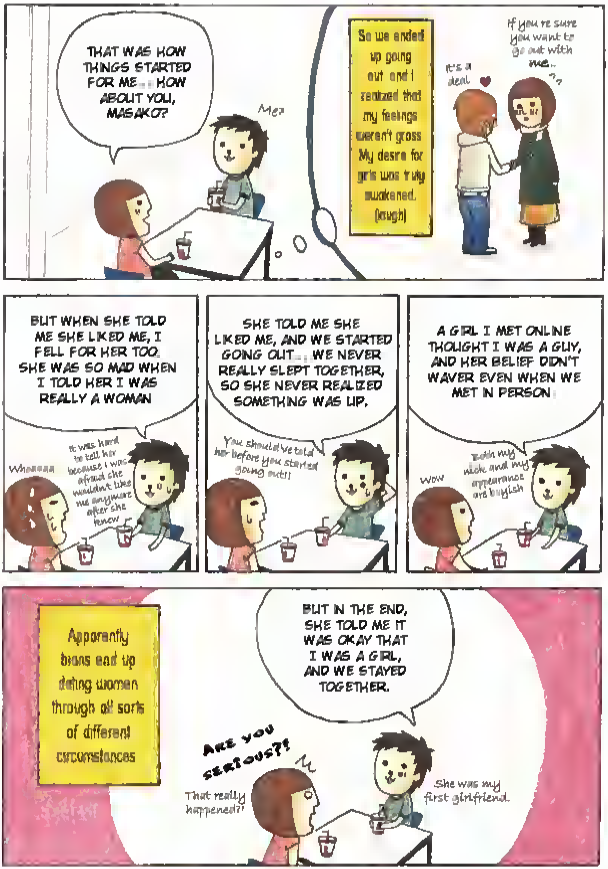

WHAT ARE THESE FEELINGS?! AM I IN LOVE WITH YAMADA-SAN?!
BUT SHE'S A GIRL.
MAYBE IT'S JUST ADMI-RATION


I'M MAKING HANDPRINTS RIGHT NOW, BUT I CAN'T PAINT MY HANDS WELL MYSELF. COULD YOU DO IT FOR ME?
WHA-AAT?
badum badum


Art Club
SAC-CHA-AAN !!
badum
One day ...

IF YOU DO IT WITH A BRUSH, IT LEAVES BRUSH MARKS..
Ohhh..
None eighth-grader that I was I blushed all the way to the tips of my ears?!
DO IT BY HAND, 'KAY?
SURE!
Thanks
DON'T BE GROSS!!
Ahahaaaa!
badum badum badum badum badum
OH, BOY
O-OH, BOY
WHAT'RE YOU BLUSHING FOR?
You're bright red
My heart
OH... I'M GROSS THESE FEELINGS ARE GROSS
Yeah..
Thanks!
Yamadersan only said it as a joke, but it came as a huge shock to me It made me realize that I really was in love with her
GAAAAAH
Ahahaha..
← Doesn't get it

I bet someone'll turn up! I just haven't met anyone yet!
I didn't fall for any guys after that, but I was a positive person, so I didn't worry much over it.
That was my take on it, and so I just pushed my feelings down
BUT THESE FEELINGS AREN'T REAL. THEY'RE JUST A MIS CONCEPT ON BROUGHT ON BY PURERTY AND THEY'RE GROSS. SO I'LL JUST KEEP THEM TO MYSELF
Later when I was in high school, I fell in love with another girl
Awfully calm about it.
I worried a lot then.
Where do you wanna go?
I'M GROSS, AREN'T I? BUT I REALLY LIKE HER DOES THAT MEAN I'M A LEZZIE?
My heart raced when I was near her
But
the next person I fell for was a girl too...
H-huh?!
badum badum
She was a friend of a friend.
Turns out she was bi and had sort of picked up on my feelings for her
Is that a no?
GAPE
A while later the third girl I fell for told me she liked me! It was totally out of the blue!!
I like you. Would you go out with me?
Huuuh?
But!!
Not Masako


THAT WAS HOW THINGS STARTED FOR ME... HOW ABOUT YOU, MASAKO?
Me?
So we ended up going out and I realized that my feelings weren't gross. My desire for girls was truly awakened. (laugh)
It's a deal
If you're sure you want to go out with me...
BUT WHEN SHE TOLD ME SHE LIKED ME, I FELL FOR HER TOO. SHE WAS SO MAD WHEN I TOLD HER I WAS REALLY A WOMAN
Whaaaaa
It was hard to tell her because I was afraid she wouldn't like me anymore after she knew
SHE TOLD ME SHE LIKED ME, AND WE STARTED GOING OUT... WE NEVER REALLY SLEPT TOGETHER, SO SHE NEVER REALIZED SOMETHING WAS UP.
You should've told her before you started going out!!
A GIRL I MET ONLINE THOUGHT I WAS A GUY, AND HER BELIEF DIDN'T WAVER EVEN WHEN WE MET IN PERSON.
Wow
Both my voice and my appearance are boyish
Apparently Isana end up dating women through all sorts of different circumstances
BUT IN THE END, SHE TOLD ME IT WAS OKAY THAT I WAS A GIRL, AND WE STAYED TOGETHER.
ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
That really happened!?
She was my first girlfriend.

A matching pair
Sachiko
Masako

Honey & Honey

Chapter 4

A Lililicious Project
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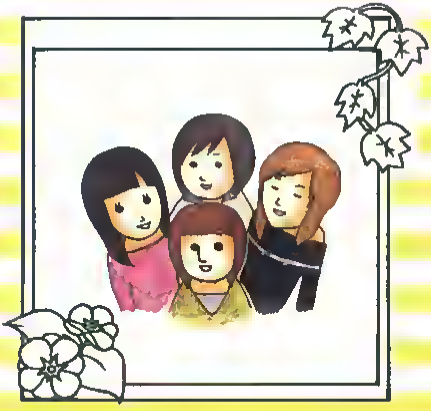
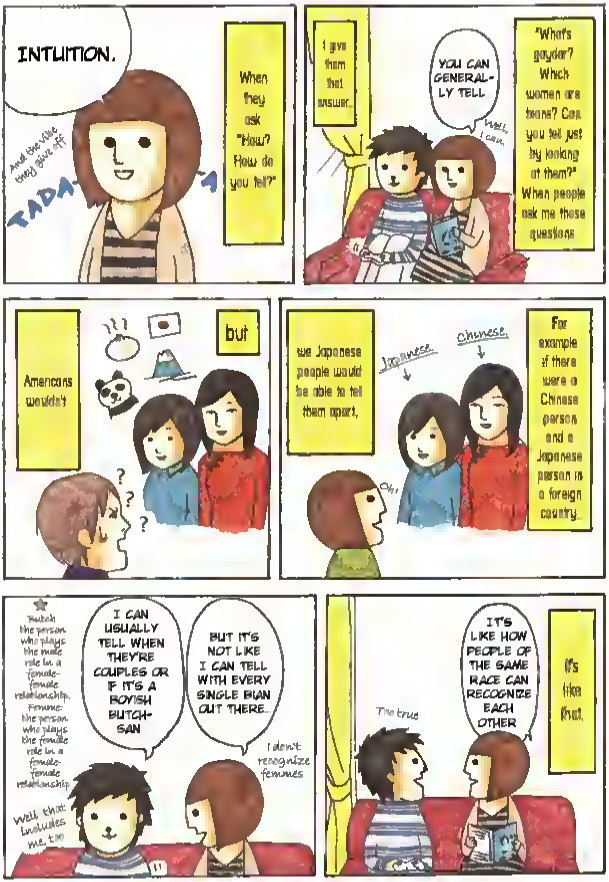
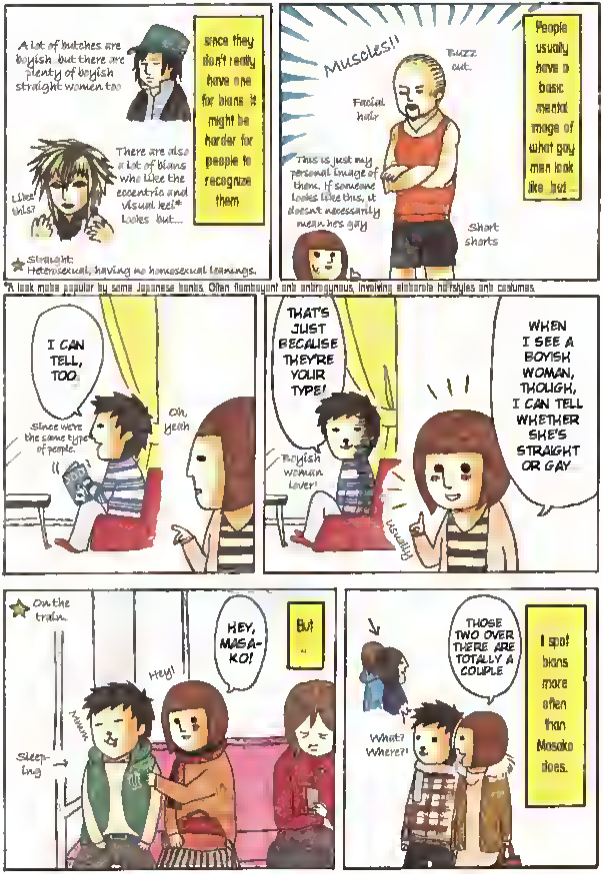
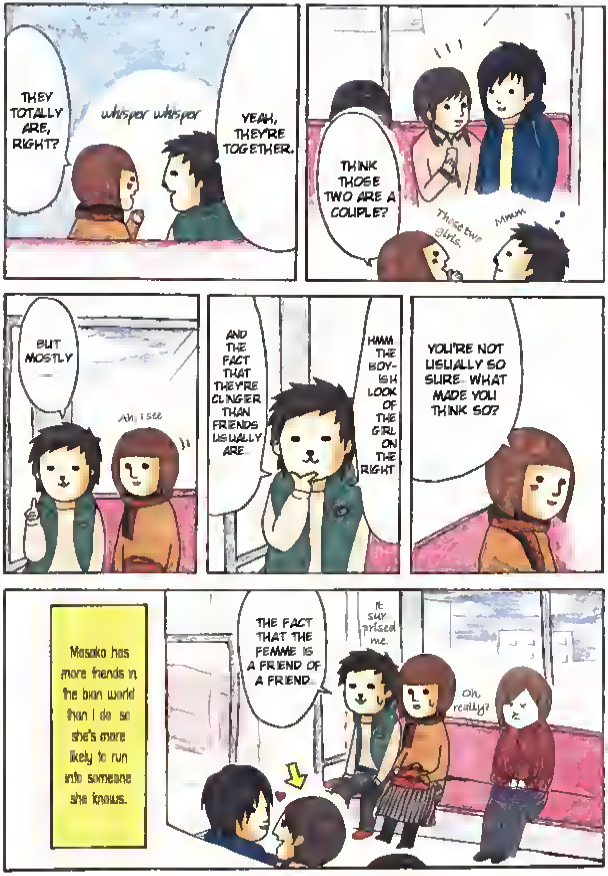
What's Gaydar?

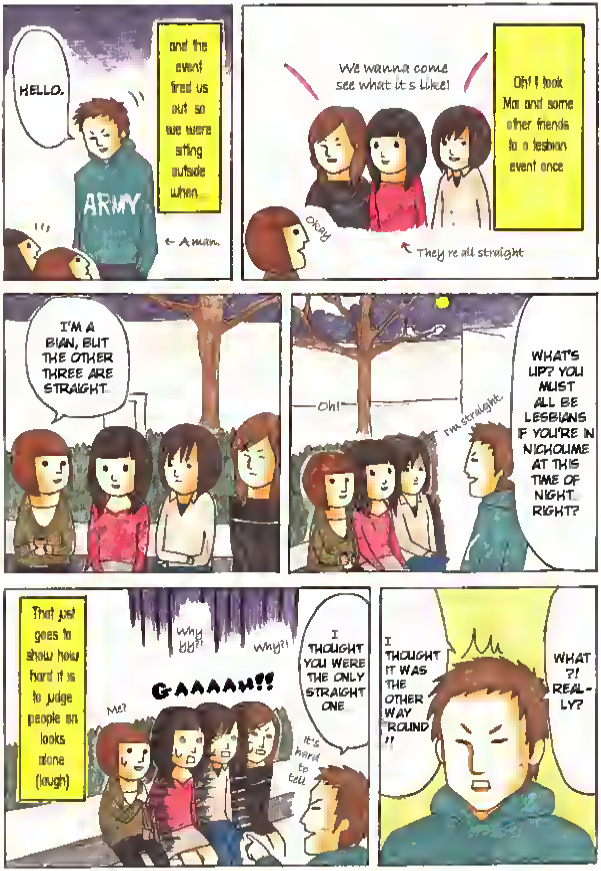



INTUITION.
When they ask "How? How do you tell?"
And the like they give it!
TADA
I give them that answer.
YOU CAN GENERALLY TELL
Yeah, I can.
"What's gaydar? Which women are bians? Can you tell just by looking at them?" When people ask me these questions
but
Americans wouldn't
we Japanese people would be able to tell them apart.
Japanese
Chinese
Oh!
For example if there were a Chinese person and a Japanese person in a foreign country
Butch: the person who plays the male role in a female-female relationship. Femme: the person who plays the female role in a female-female relationship.
I CAN USUALLY TELL WHEN THEY'RE COUPLES OR IF IT'S A BOYISH BUTCH-SAN
BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I CAN TELL WITH EVERY SINGLE BIAN OUT THERE.
I don't recognize femmes
Well, that includes me, too
That true
IT'S LIKE HOW PEOPLE OF THE SAME RACE CAN RECOGNIZE EACH OTHER
It's like that.


A lot of butches are boyish but there are plenty of boyish straight women too
since they don't really have one for bians it might be harder for people to recognize them
There are also a lot of bians who like the eccentric and visual kei* Looks but...
Likes this?
Straight: Heterosexual, having no homosexual leanings.
Muscles!!
Buzz cut.
Facial hair
This is just my personal image of them. If someone looks like this, it doesn't necessarily mean he's gay
Short shorts
People usually have a basic mental image of what gay men look like, but...
*A look make popular by some Japanese bands. Often flamboyant and androgynous, involving elaborate hairstyles and costumes.
I CAN TELL, TOO.
Since we're the same types of people.
Oh, yeah
THAT'S JUST BECAUSE THEY'RE YOUR TYPE!
Boyish woman lover!
Usually
WHEN I SEE A BOYISH WOMAN, THOUGH, I CAN TELL WHETHER SHE'S STRAIGHT OR GAY
On the train.
Sleeping
Mmm
Hey!
HEY, MASA-KO!
But...
What? Where?!
THOSE TWO OVER THERE ARE TOTALLY A COUPLE
I spot bians more often than Masako does.


THEY TOTALLY ARE, RIGHT?
whisper whisper
YEAH, THEY'RE TOGETHER.
THINK THOSE TWO ARE A COUPLE?
Those two girls.
Mmm
BUT MOSTLY
Ah, I see
AND THE FACT THAT THEY'RE CLINGIER THAN FRIENDS USUALLY ARE.
HMM THE BOY-ISH LOOK OF THE GIRL ON THE RIGHT
YOU'RE NOT USUALLY SO SURE. WHAT MADE YOU THINK SO?
Masako has more friends in the bian world than I do so she's more likely to run into someone she knows.
THE FACT THAT THE FEMME IS A FRIEND OF A FRIEND.
It surprised me.
Oh, really?

SMOKING
Both Masako and I are heavy smokers
1) A high percentage of bians smoke
She meets a lot of bians through me
Straight.
According to my good friend Mai
She's dancing, too.
Kuu-chan!
There she is!
Yeah!
The popular
2) We get unusually excited when someone sings a Kodo Kumi* song during karaoke
We're the only ones who do
*A Japanese pop singer. Some of her songs deal with queer issues.
At an event.
?!
You're a cutie.
Around the waist!
And she walked away with Mai
Meeting her for the first time.
Ack!
Erm...
O-ohmy
Watch out
On the back!!
3) We're really touchy-feely
At a crosswalk.


HELLO.
ARMY
and the event freed us out so we were sitting outside when...
← A man.
We wanna come see what it's like!
Oh!! I took Mai and some other friends to a lesbian event once
Okay
They're all straight
I'M A BIAN, BUT THE OTHER THREE ARE STRAIGHT.
Oh!
I'm straight.
WHAT'S UP? YOU MUST ALL BE LESBIANS IF YOU'RE IN NICHOUME AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT. RIGHT?
That just goes to show how hard it is to judge people on looks alone (laugh)
Why!?
Why?!
GAAAAH!!
Me?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE ONLY STRAIGHT ONE.
It's hard to tell.
I THOUGHT IT WAS THE OTHER WAY ROUND !!
WHAT ?! REAL-LY?

Honey & Honey

Chapter 5

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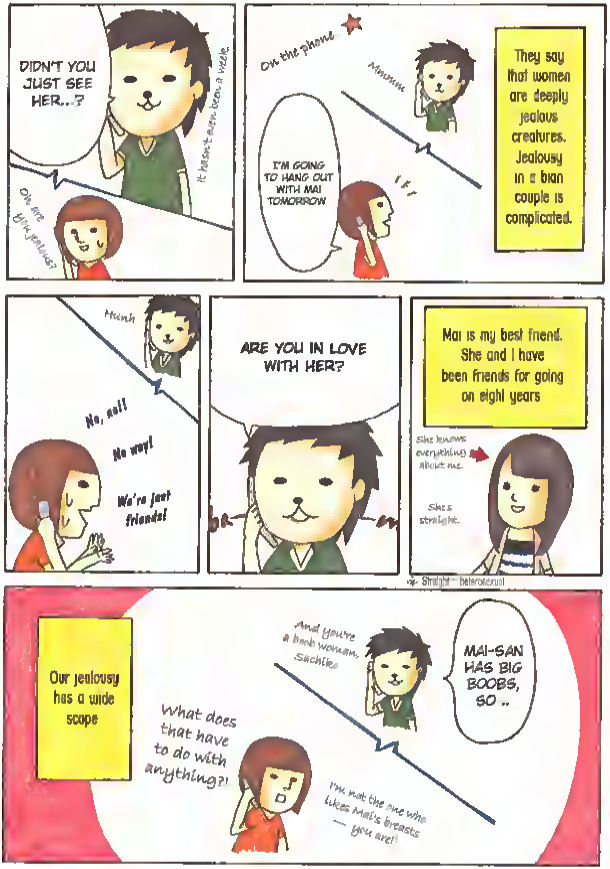
QC'd by: The Lory, steekie, and Tiny Snowfairy

Competing in Jealousy


DIDN'T YOU JUST SEE HER...?
It hasn't been a week.
Oh, are you jealous?
On the phone
Mmmm
I'M GOING TO HANG OUT WITH MAI TOMORROW
They say that women are deeply jealous creatures. Jealousy in a bian couple is complicated.
Hmmh
No, no!!
No way!
We're just friends!
ARE YOU IN LOVE WITH HER?
Mai is my best friend. She and I have been friends for going on eight years
She knows everything about me.
She's straight.
via Straight = heterosexual
Our jealousy has a wide scope
And you're a boob woman, Sachiko
MAI-SAN HAS BIG BOOBS, SO ..
What does that have to do with anything?!
I'm not the one who likes Mai's breasts — you are!

After the concert.
Thanks for coming!
You must be tired
Wow Look at all that makeup!
Visual kei.
Once, when we went to see a band one of my male friends was in
She was worried, so she came along
Oh?
Neither men nor women are "safe," so we can get jealous over every little thing
LET ME SEE, LET ME SEE!
Come see us again sometime
Snap
LET'S TAKE A PICTURE TOGETHER!
Hey, I'm not in it !!
Don't look at me.
Here.

* Eric Yeung Jose, a Korean actor. You may recognize him from the drama series *Winter Sonata*.

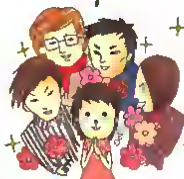
THEY DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT. THEY'RE ALL GOOD FRIENDS OF MINE. AND...
slump
shake shake
Hey
Hey
You wouldn't expect that response from a guy, nuight?
YOU'RE MORE ALLURING TO ME THAN ANY GUY, SACHIKO.
flutter
I ONLY HAVE EYES FOR YOU NOW, SACHIKO
To sum up if women are jealous, that's a signal that they want a confirmation of your love for each other.
Take care
GO ON, THEN!
Phew!
Gimme a break.
Since she's a girl, she's good at dealing with girls.

Mine
money

Sachiko's contact lens solution
Masako's contact lens solution
Sachiko's body gel
Sachiko's hand cream
Musako's bathroom
messy
3
1
4
2
Sorry!
I just like mine better
it's a total mess!
Hey, could you take some of this stuff home with you?
Sachiko's timer
Masako's timer
Sachiko's mousse
Masako's hairspray

Honey & Honey

Chapter 6



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QC'd by: The Lory, steekie, Sailor Avalon, and Tiny Snowfairy

More Competing in Jealousy

* A style characterized by expensive brand-name clothes, often also includes brown hair and tanned skin. Sexy in a sophisticated, polished way.

Then we get hit on, and things turn into a mess — I don't know if it's still jealousy, or something else entirely.
We're weirdos?
What?
NO IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE SHOWING SO MUCH LEG !!
SEE?!! BECAUSE OF YOUR CLEAVAGE, WEIRDOS ARE COMING UP TO US!!
It only happens at times like this
WHERE'D YOU COME FROM?
HEY, YOU TWO ALONE?
HURRY UP, MASAKO!!
C'mon, just 5 minutes!
I'm waiting for a friend
HEY, BABE, YOU ALONE?
URK!
MASAKO SURE IS LATE
But when I'm alone
Night
You go, girl
Oh your friend?
A guy? He's trying to pick you up?
I know this place right nearby
Hm. ›

I don't know what sort of criteria Masako has for jealousy. (laugh)
? ?
Help me out here!!
Why do you look so happy?!
Eeeeep!
Because you're such a catch!!
HIROKO ...
Mmmm
mumble mumble
Staying over at Masako's
'NIGHT, MASAKO!
You're already asleep, aren't you?
Now that I think about this, there was this one time when my stupid jealousy kept me up all night
'MORNING ... OH? WHAT'S WRONG ?!
chirp, chirp
Had a sleepless night.
It bothered me so much that I couldn't sleep a wink
GA—H
Who's that?!

* An all-female J-pop group

A matching pair.

Honey & Honey

Chapter 7

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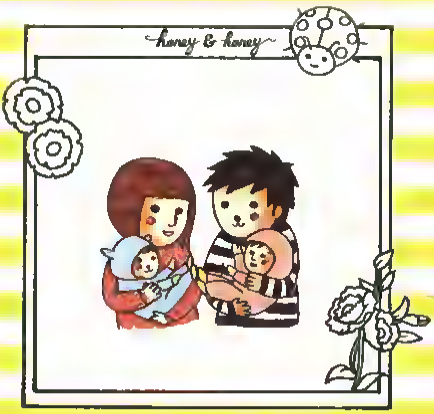
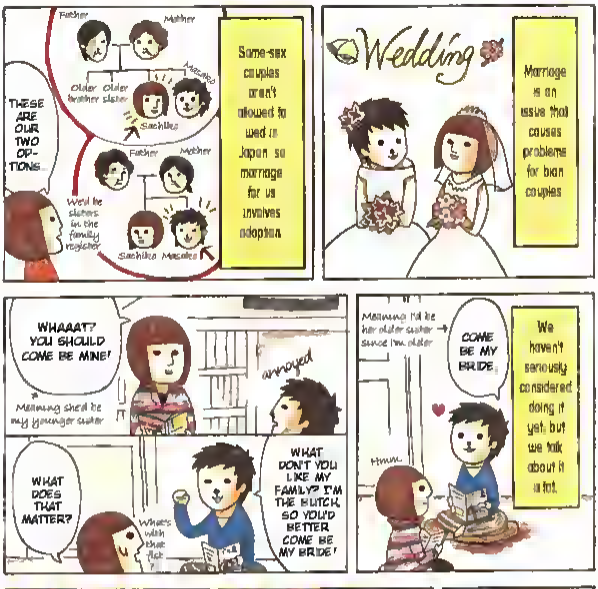

honey & honey

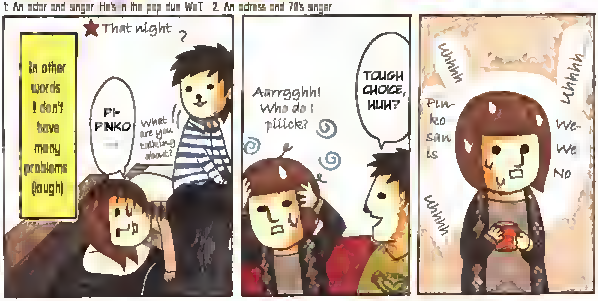


*A magazine put out by the publisher of this manga; *Honey & Honey* won a *Da Vinci* Comic Essay Fair Award.

but children are another matter
Countries that allow same-sex marriage.
Germany
France
England
Norway
etc....
No seed
We both have wombs
Since marriage is a legal issue... we do have hope...
We need to talk to our parents about it first though
Eeeep! I'm kidding! I'm kidding!!
That's your reason?!
It's really that bad?
That one's kinda gross
My brother...?
Huh ?!
BUT WE WANT IT TO BE CONNECTED TO BOTH OF US BY BLOOD. DON'T WE? WE COULD ASK YOUR BROTHER TO DONATE SOME SPERM
We don't have any plans to do it, of course, but we both agree it's a lot.
WE SHOULD GO WITH THE SPERM BANK, RIGHT ?
Children are a difficult issue
BLEURGHHH
BLEURGHHH
WE'D HAVE MORNING SICKNESS TOGETHER...
I CHANGED MY MIND
YEAH, THAT MIGHT BE GOOD.
WE COULD JUST BOTH HAVE ONE AT THE SAME TIME.
Lemons
Double preg nancy
!!!

romance /rou mæns/ n When a man and a woman
Aak! That's a shock!!
Some problems we face in our everyday life
Sis?
That surprised me.
Masaka, Masaka!!
HM?
Marriage, childbirth coming out there are a lot of issues we have to deal with, but it's not like they're constantly bothering us
C'mere
There's nobody to stop us from following beautiful women around
drift drift
Her Pheromones
Ooh!
Oh!
Hahahaha
On a date.
What should we have for dinner
Hmm
Out with a group of friends
And
HEY, LET'S ALL GO TO THE OEDO HOT SPRINGS!
Let's go!
Sounds good
Yeah!
Apart from us, they're all straight
We stand out when we're in the adult section of the video store
Adult
Whoa
Whoa
Whoa

1: An actor and singer. He's in the pop duo WeT. 2: An actress and 70's singer.



Preparing to go out.

Honey & Honey

Chapter 8

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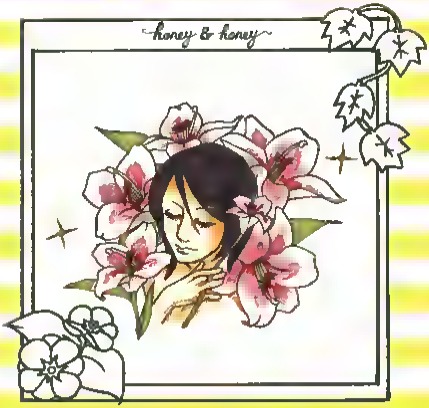
You've Got It All Wrong!

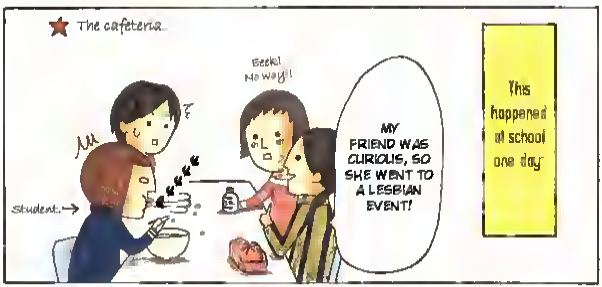


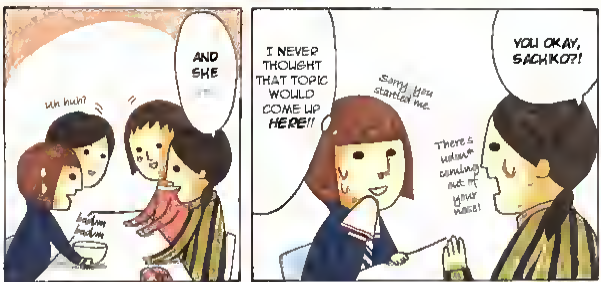
But where are they? What are they like? What's their world like?"

A lot of people probably wonder those things

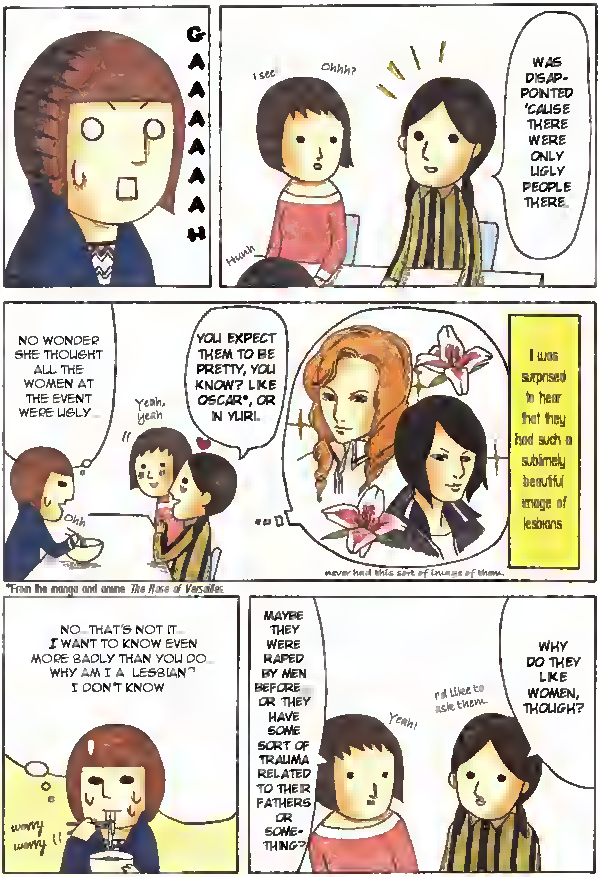
"I know the word "lesbian."

And I know there are people out there like that.





*A kind of noodle.


GAAAAAAH
I see
Ohhh?
Hmm
WAS DISAPPOINTED 'CAUSE THERE WERE ONLY UGLY PEOPLE THERE.
NO WONDER SHE THOUGHT ALL THE WOMEN AT THE EVENT WERE UGLY...
Ohh
Yeah, yeah
YOU EXPECT THEM TO BE PRETTY, YOU KNOW? LIKE OSCAR*, OR IN YURI.
never had this sort of image of them.
I was surprised to hear that they had such a sublimely beautiful image of lesbians
*From the manga and anime The Rose of Versailles.
NO... THAT'S NOT IT... I WANT TO KNOW EVEN MORE BADLY THAN YOU DO... WHY AM I A LESBIAN? I DON'T KNOW
mmm mmm
MAYBE THEY WERE RAPED BY MEN BEFORE OR THEY HAVE SOME SORT OF TRAUMA RELATED TO THEIR FATHERS OR SOMETHING?
Yeah!
I'd like to ask them...
WHY DO THEY LIKE WOMEN, THOUGH?

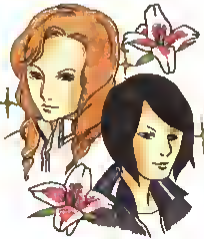
Apparently there are rather a lot of people who think lesbians must automatically be pretty
Which isn't true.
I thought about it so much that I tired myself out
Ahaha I've been there
Masako told me that back when she was in high school, there was a guy who just wouldn't take no for an answer
WHAT DO I DO? I TOLD HIM I HAVE A BOYFRIEND BUT THAT DIDN'T HELP
IF I TELL HIM THE TRUTH, HE MIGHT NOT BE HAPPY ABOUT IT, BUT HE'LL HAVE TO GIVE UP ON ME...
She really has a girlfriend, not a boyfriend.
MASAKOOO!
Well I'm actually hi, but
U-UHM,
What?
THE TRUTH IS, I'M A LESBIAN.
SO PLEASE GIVE UP ON ME.
GAAAH
N-nooo
OH... YOU POOR THING...
YOU MUST'VE FALLEN PREY TO A LOT OF JERKS...,
Huh?

GLINT
I'LL GIVE YOU A TASTE OF THE SORT OF HAPPINESS EVERY GIRL DREAMS OF!!
Guys need to protect girls!!
BUT DON'T WORRY!!
I'm happy now!
Wh why...?
SLAP!!
It seems that some men think that lesbians are just women who've been hurt in the past. However, this doesn't apply to the vast majority of lesbians, which leads to a lot of misunderstandings
You were young and impetuous
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE JUST SLAPPED HIM WITHOUT EVEN TRYING TO DISCUSS IT FIRST, THOUGH
Smirk
OTHER PEOPLE SHOULDN'T ASSUME THAT YOU'RE AN OBJECT OF PITY...
That's not it at all!
That's something you decide for yourself
HE HAD A "YOU WENT DOWN THAT PATH BECAUSE YOU WERE HURT... I WANT TO SAVE YOU" ATTITUDE ABOUT IT... IT WAS A SHOCK...

Switching outfits
Sachiko
Masako

Honey & Honey

Chapter 9



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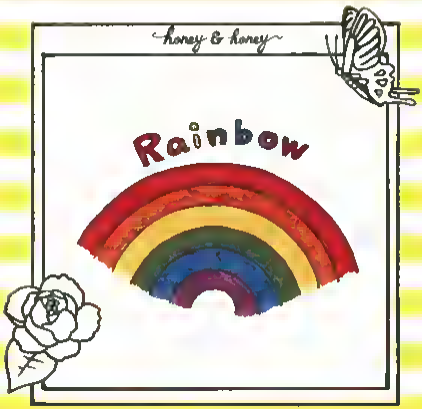
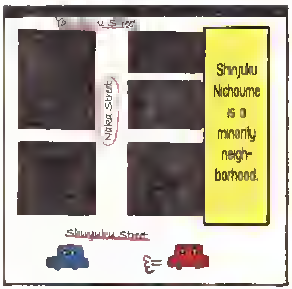
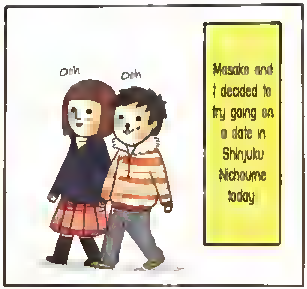
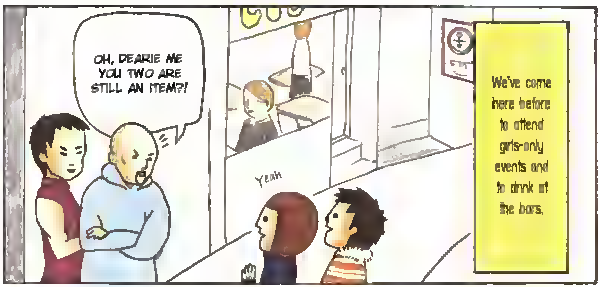
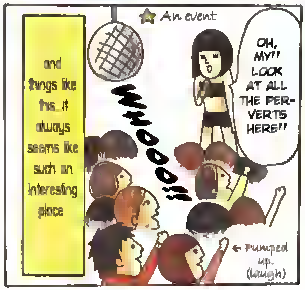
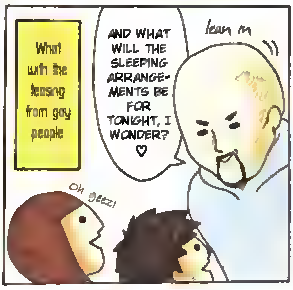

honey & honey
Rainbow


Nihon Street
Shinjuku Nichoume is a minority neighborhood.
Shinjuku Street


Ohh
Ohh
Masako and I decided to try going on a date in Shinjuku Nichoume today


OH, DEARIE ME YOU TWO ARE STILL AN ITEM?!
Yeah
We've come here before to attend girls-only events and to drink at the bars.


and things like this. it always seems like such an interesting place
An event
OH, MY?! LOOK AT ALL THE PER-VERTS HERE?!
WHOOO!!!
← pumped up. (laugh)


What with the teasing from gay people
AND WHAT WILL THE SLEEPING ARRANGE-MENTS BE FOR TONIGHT, I WONDER? ♡
Yeah m
Oh Geez!

His body is male now too, though
Yo!
Hajime-kun is an FTM: his body is female, but he's a man on the inside
FTM → short for "female to male." It denotes a person who is biologically female and identifies as a man.
We run into a friend
MASA-KOOO!! SACHI-KOOO!!
Oh! Hajime-kun
march march
WANT TO GRAB A DRINK AT AGIT?
Sure!
We're all about the same height.
WELL, I'M START-ING TO GROW A BEARD NOW!
Ohhh
HOW ARE YOU? HOW'S IT GOING?
NICHOUME SURE IS A MYSTER-IOUS PLACE
Well
agit*
KMM, NICE BODY .....
Nnnnnnnn!
Ehe.
They have their hands all over Hajime-kun as soon as he walks in.
*Japanese for "Yellow!"

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE HAVING A SERIOUS DISCUSSION OVER HERE. WHAT ABOUT?
I HAVE A LOT OF MEMORIES HERE.
Huh. Because there are women together?
My friends said that.
EVERYONE SEEMS TO HAVE THIS IMAGE OF IT AS A BEAUTIFUL NEIGHBORHOOD
MEMORIES?
BEAUTIFUL
Hmmmm.
DO YOU HAVE ANY BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES OF NICHOME?
Hmmmm.

MY MEMORIES OF NICHOUME ARE A MESS!
NOT A ONE!!
Whoaaa
ba-
m
THINKING BACK...
WELL, DO YOU HAVE ANY BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES HERE?
That's the sort of place Shinjuku Nichoume is
NOT A ONE!!
I know, right?
Another
tap

I saw a lot of different people
Hmm
I used to work in Nishinome
Yeah!
I followed some celebrities around
Ah!
And
You're sweating like a pig?!
Constipated?
WHAT'S WRONG, HAJIME-KUN?
CHUG
drip
drip
It's a really small world, too
For real?!
THAT GIRL THERE
matter
SHE'S MY GIRL-FRIEND'S EX ...
Yeurgh

Honey & Honey

Chapter 10

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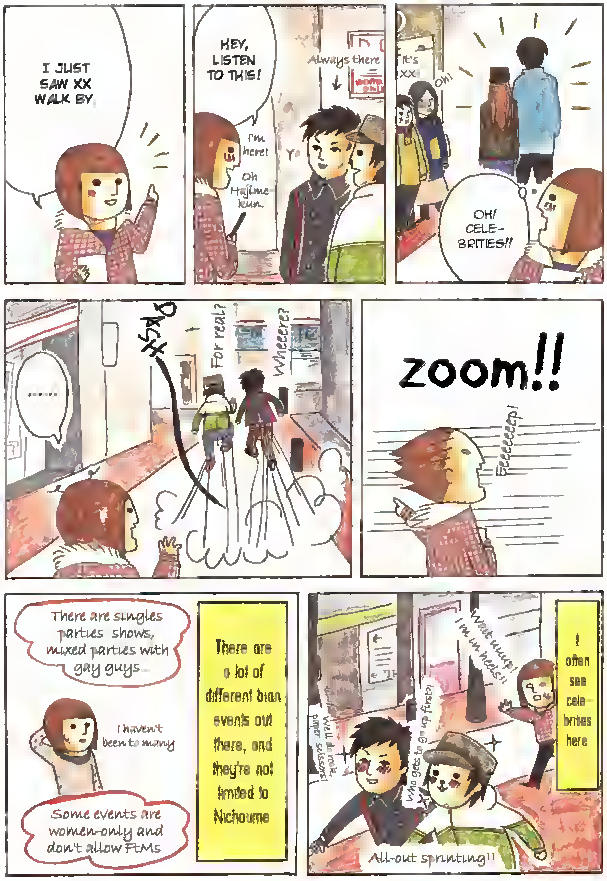
Another Date in Shinjuku Nichoume

HEHE WELL...
What what?
OH? YOU'RE LOOKING ESPECIALLY MASCULINE TODAY.
We're on another date in Ni-chaume today
Video Corner
No Ladies Ple
Hmm
Whaaaat?
Video Corner
No Ladies Ple
Masako's sure in a good mood today
Hm?
THERE'S A MAGAZINE I WANT. CAN WE GO TO THE STORE?
But of course!
I thought you'd never ask.
There's an event today, and it's cheaper if you have a flier
OH! I FORGOT TO PICK UP A FLIER
I'M GOING TO GET ONE NOW. YOU GO ON AHEAD
She's too excited
SO THAT'S WHY SHE'S DRESSED LIKE THIS


I JUST SAW XX WALK BY
HEY, LISTEN TO THIS!
Always there
I'm here!
Oh Hajime-kun.
It's XX!
Oh!
OH! CELE-BRITIES!!
.....
For real?
Wheeeere?
zoom!!
Eeeeeeeep!
There are singles parties shows, mixed parties with gay guys
I haven't been to many
Some events are women-only and don't allow FtMs
There are a lot of different bian events out there, and they're not limited to Nichoume
Well do rock, paper scissors!
Who gets to go up first?
Wait wuup! I'm in heels!!
I often see cele-brites here
All-out sprinting!!

Yeah
THEY SURE ARE FIRED UP!
Not dancing
SQUEEEE
SQUEE
But most of them are clubs packed with women, with a dance floor
And areas to just relax and hang out, too of course.
The noisiest
Hey!
Ahahaaa
OH? THAT'S HA-JIME-KUN
Let's hide
Like to just hang out
FEVEEER!
Whoo!
Drunk
Everyone's drunk and dances...
Everyone's drunk
LUCKY HER LUCKY HER! IF ONLY IF ONLY
WHOOOAAA!
On the cheek
Ooh!
On the cheek
smooch
Once when I saw a dancer giving out kisses at an event

Fellow up?
I was just a little bit envious
OH, SORRY YOU KNOW I'M JOKING, RIGHT?
Me
Oh?
I THOUGHT THAT THEN.
Ahaha.
Speechless
I could get one too!
MA SAKO WER EN'T RIGHT HERE
Oh
squeeee
Knowing what I do now I think we should've just gone up to her together
Hyper-critical anger
What?!!
A- ACTUALLY, I WAS THINKING THE SAME THING
"If only Sashiko weren't here..."
THIS'S MY EX!
Her current girlfriend.
I HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND NOW!
We see a lot of different situations at events
Geez
O-Ohhh.
Ohhhh!
clap clap

*Literally, "rose." Used to refer to gay men.

Honey & Honey

Chapter 11

Scanned by Sailor Avalon
Translated by Sailor Avalon
Edited by Sailor Avalon
QC'd by The Lory, steekie, and Tiny Snowfairy

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Can't Tell Our Parents

Sachiko-mama.
Go on and have some dinner
Oh! All right.
We've met each other's parents before, but just as friends.
We've kept our relationship a secret from them too, of course.
We haven't told our parents that we're gay (or bi, in Masako's case).
I'VE TRIED TO TELL THEM COUNTLESS TIMES, THOUGH.
I guess I'm waiting to see how things go right now
Hmm. I THINK A TIME MIGHT COME WHEN I'LL HAVE TO
WILL YOU TELL YOUR PARENTS SOMEDAY?
Waaaaaah!
We broke uuuup Mooo-om!
I THINK SHE'S BUSY WITH SCHOOL RIGHT NOW ...
You used to have her over all the time ...
I HAVEN'T SEEN SUMI-CHAN AROUND RECENTLY.
My ex girlfriend.
Once, way back when, I broke up with my girl-friend.

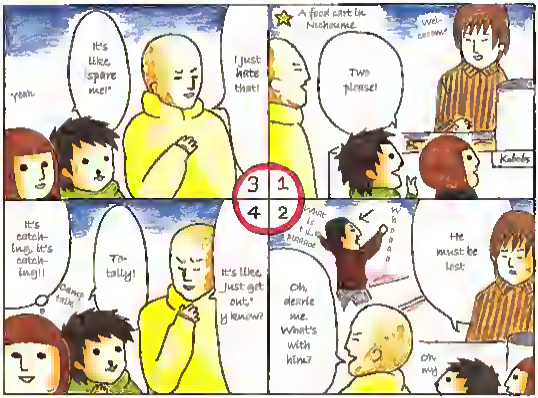
Whenever my mother said she was worried about me I thought about telling her the truth. But I just couldn't get the words out.
I'm sorry
I'm all right
You all right?
YOU'VE BEEN DOWN LATELY, SAC-CHAN.
I'M... WOR-RIED ABOUT YOU
SOME-TIMES IT SEEMS LIKE SHE KNOWS ALL ABOUT IT, THOUGH. IT GIVES ME A FRIGHT
Ho ho ho
My father thinks I'm a pa-thetic oil who can't get a boyfriend
Yeah, your mom's sharp
But I doubt the idea would even cross her mind, and you know what they say you see what you want to see. So I don't think she knows.
THAT'S HAPPENED TWICE NOW... THOUGH. SHE MUST HAVE SOME SUSPI-CIONS...
got that reaction from his mother
YOU'RE A LESBIAN, AREN'T YOU?
Not exactly...
He's changed his appearance, so he can't keep it a secret
Inciden-tally I heard my FtM friend Hojime-kun.
FtM
Short for "female to male". It denotes a person who's biologically female and identifies as a man.

Visiting his parents.
And...
Knock
Knock
Come Ilin!
They worked things out
IT'S BETTER THAN IF YOU SUDDENLY RAN OFF TO ANOTHER COUNTRY WITH SOME FOREIGNER.
They nearly ended up cutting ties with each other but in the end...
His mother is a real worrywart.
Apparently Hajime-kun feels his mother's love every time he looks at the boxers she secretly bought him.
Mommy...
K-chk
I BOUGHT YOU SOME UNDERWEAR.
BOXERS !!
Whoaaa!
It was when they decided that Masako was going to live on her own
CHOOSE A PLACE THAT'S SAFE, EVEN IF IT'S A LITTLE STEEP...
Like around here?
Masako-mama.
HOW ABOUT YOU, MASAKO?
W-well

MEN ARE DANGEROUS BECAUSE THERE'S THE POSSIBILITY YOU COULD END UP HAVING A LOVE AFFAIR WITH ONE.
ONE OF MY FRIENDS HAD A MALE NEIGHBOR THAT ACTED LIKE A STALKER.
Oh, dear
BUT ONCE I MOVE IN, IT'LL BE A LITTLE SCARY IF I END UP NEXT TO A MAN WHO'S LIVING ALONE.
WELL, IN YOUR CASE, WOMEN ARE DANGEROUS TOO...
Meh
What does that mean?!
That I'd be in danger of starting a relationship with a woman too?!
Eeeeeeek
SHRIEK
Your secrets ammunit!
I lied to her then, but
DEAR, YOU HAVE TO TAKE SACHIKO-CHAN'S CUP WITH YOU.
Here
She's always over at your apartment, right?
A-and
Eeeeeeek
Masaka's parents might know, though...

honey

Unawares


Yeah.
It's like, "spare me!"
I just hate that!
A food cart in Nichoume.
Two please!
Kabobs
3
1
4
2
It's catch-ing, it's catch-ing!!
Camp talk
To-tally!
It's like, "just get out," y know?
Oh, dearie me. What's with him?
He must be lost
Oh my

Honey & Honey

Chapter 12

A Lilicious Project
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Edited by Nukumori
QC'd by: The Lory, sleekie,
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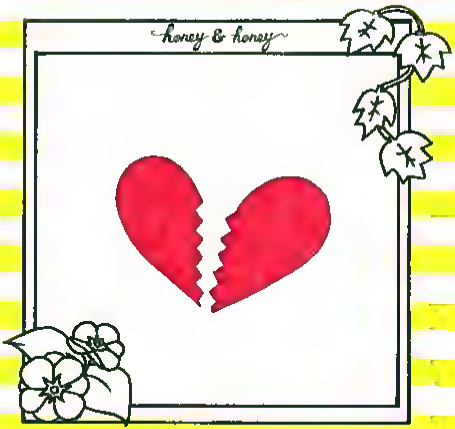
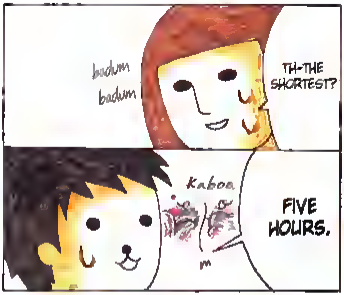
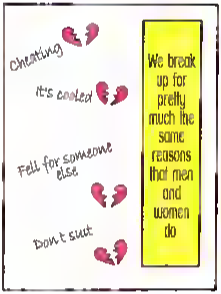
and Tiny Snowfairy

Bian Breakups

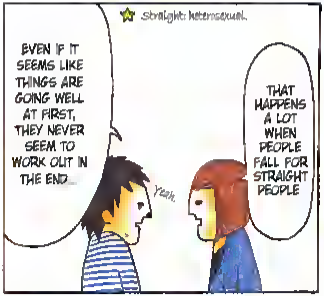


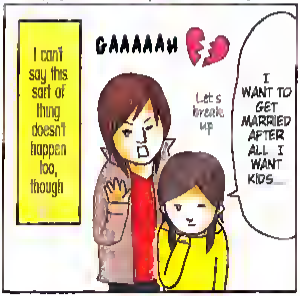
They say that bians and gay people go through lovers fast
We broke up...
Oh, my Agatha?
And when I'm talking with people in Nichoume, I often think... "Too true."
Though it varies from person to person, of course.
Well, my longest relationship lasted a year and a half
YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH EXPERIENCE, THOUGH...
You can count them on one hand, right?
Uh huuuh
GEEZ! I'M STILL IN MY TWENTIES, YOU KNOW THAT'S HOW IT IS!
Really?
OH... MASAKO WHAT NUMBER AM I?
Uhh
hm
Both hands?!
THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE I'VE DATED, RIGHT?
And you're younger than meeeee
THE TWELFTH.
I can see your underwear, y'know?
Masako has a huge amount of experience



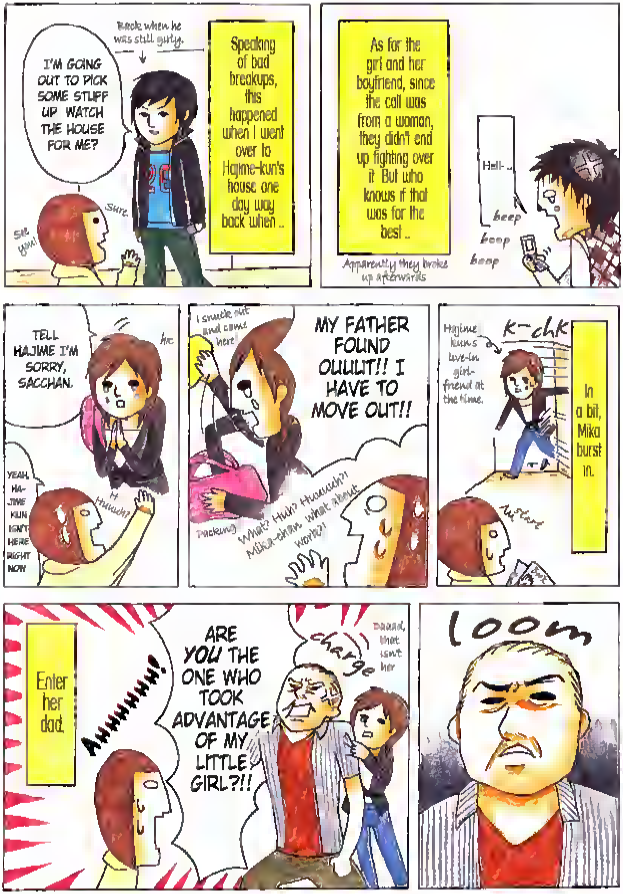


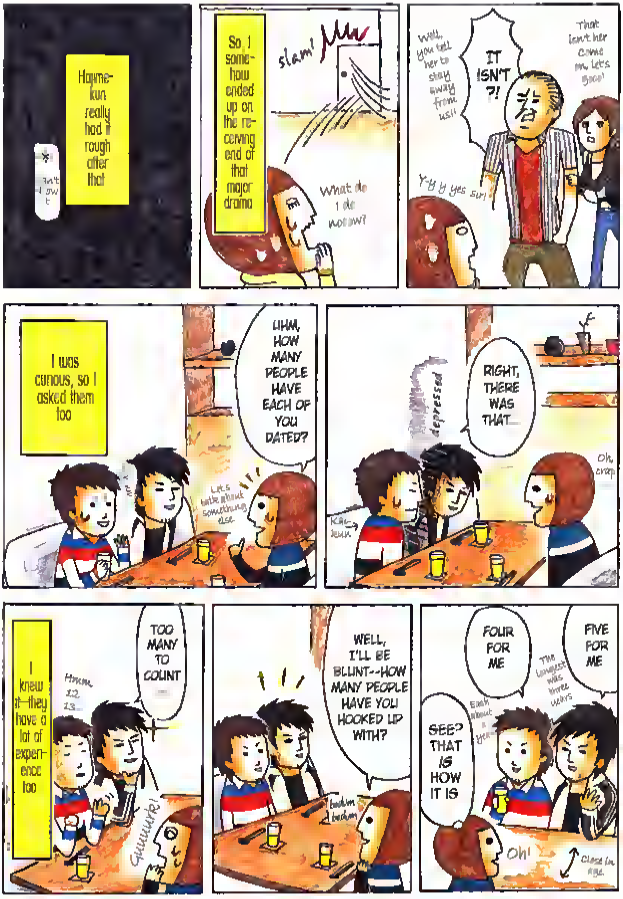
*the protagonist of *The Tale of Genji* he was involved with many women.





Cause. She said, "I can only see you as a friend now."
In other words, I got dumped.
Whaaaaaaaah! I'm gonna go to Nichoume, so theeeere! I don't care what happens anymoreee!
I went to an event.
Now that I think about it, my first time in Nichoume was when the shock of breaking up with a girl I really loved drove me to go out into Nichoume all alone
Apparently this made her remember something
Syh
I BET A LOT OF PEOPLE COME TO NICHOUME... TO MEET PEOPLE...
SHE WON'T EVEN TALK TO ME ANYMORE
What?! She's here?!
Think girl.
GA—H
I was able to make friends with another woman in a similar predicament there and she really saved me—we talked about things I'd never been able to share with anyone before.
OH, SO YOU BROKE UP RECENTLY THE TRUTH IS, I BROKE UP WITH MY GIRLFRIEND A LITTLE WHILE AGO TOO
It sure is
It's sad
I'm her boyfriend.
GRAH!!!
Oh— sorry She's in the bathroom right now.
UH— WH— WHO'S THIS?
HUH?! A MAN'S VOICE?!
Hello.
Once a long time ago, Masako had a fight with a girlfriend and they stopped talking for a bit. Then Masako called her


Speaking of bad breakups, this happened when I went over to Hajime-kun's house one day way back when ..
Back when he was still guilty.
I'M GOING OUT TO PICK SOME STUFF UP. WATCH THE HOUSE FOR ME?
Sure.
See you!
As for the girl and her boyfriend, since the call was from a woman, they didn't end up fighting over it. But who knows if that was for the best ..
Apparently they broke up afterwards
Hell-..
beep
beep
beep
In a bit, Mika burst in.
Hajime kun's live-in girl-friend at the time.
K-chk
start
TELL HAJIME I'M SORRY, SACCHAN.
he
YEAH, HA-JIME KUN ISN'T HERE RIGHT NOW
H Huuuh?
I smuck out and come here!
MY FATHER FOUND OUUUT!! I HAVE TO MOVE OUT!!
Packing
What? Huh? Huuuuh? Mika-chan what about work?
Enter her dad.
AHHHHHH!
ARE YOU THE ONE WHO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF MY LITTLE GIRL?!!
charge
Daaad, that isn't her
loom


Hayme-kun really had it rough after that
So I somehow ended up on the receiving end of that major drama
slam!
What do I do noooow?
IT ISN'T ?!
Well, you tell her to stay away from us!!
That isn't her come on, let's go!
Y-y y yes sir!
I was curious, so I asked them too
UHM, HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE EACH OF YOU DATED?
Let's talk about something else
RIGHT, THERE WAS THAT...
depressed
Oh, crap
I knew it—they have a lot of experience too
TOO MANY TO COUNT
Hmm, 12, 13...
Guuuurk!
WELL, I'LL BE BLUNT--HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE YOU HOOKED UP WITH?
FIVE FOR ME
FOUR FOR ME
The longest was three years
SEE? THAT IS HOW IT IS
Oh!
Close in age

Honey & Honey

Chapter 13

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QC'd by. The Lory, sleekie,
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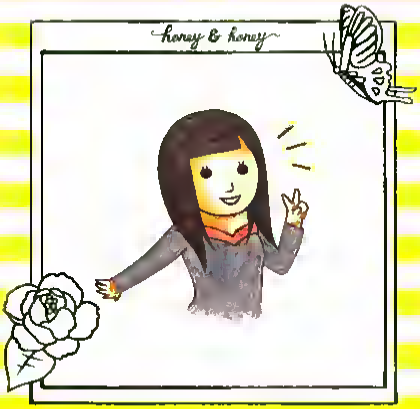
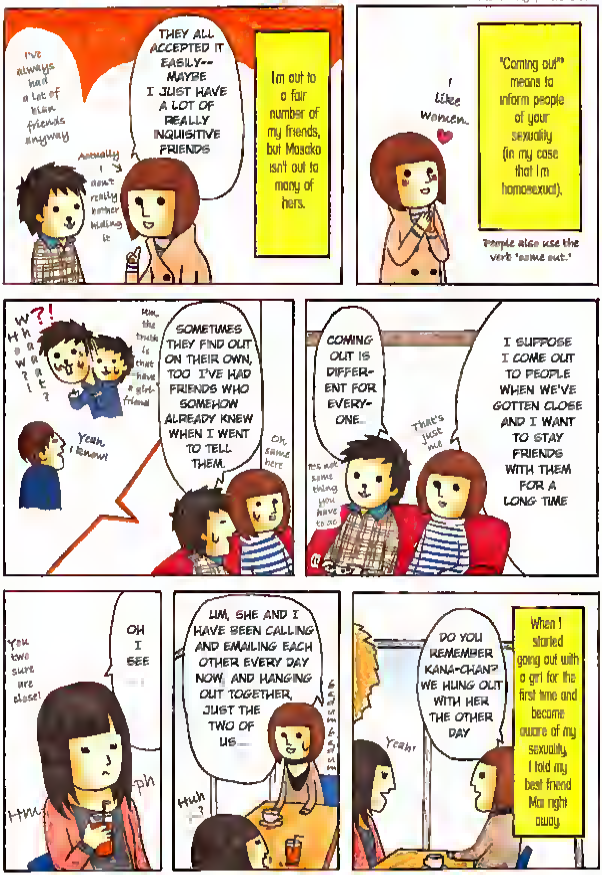
and Tiny Snowfairy

Coming Out to Friends (Part 8)



* The English expression is also used in the Japanese version.



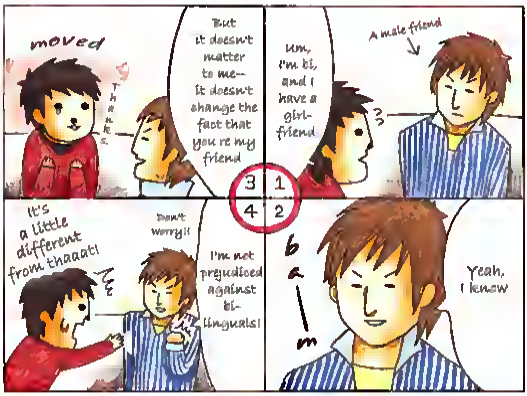
I was worried that she was thinking we were gross since we were two women together and I panicked.
Hmph
So then
AND I SAID THAT I LIKED HER BACK
fret fret
uhhhh
U-UM, SO SHE TOLD ME SHE LIKED ME ...
HUUUH? WHAAAT? THAT UPSET HER?!
Oh no!
For real?!
. . .
SO I'M IN A RELATIONSHIP WITH KANA-CHAN NOW WE GO ON DATES AND KISS AND STUFF
I had no choice but to just come out with it.
Well,
SO, WHAT DOES SHE DO TO YOU IN BED?
lean
That was fast
Apparently Mai thought I'd gotten a new best friend, and she had mixed feelings about that She told me... "If she's your girlfriend that's no problem"
OHHH! YOU ARE SERIOUS!! OH, GEEZ! AND HERE I WAS, GETTING ALL JEALOUS OF YOU I'M SORRY!
Ohhh! Thank goodness!
That's okay then! Good for you!
Oh, is that all!!

It turned out that her friend was bi too
No waaaaay!!
It's true
M-ME
TOO!!
THE TRUTH IS, I DON'T HAVE A BOYFRIEND. I HAVE A GIRLFRIEND. I'M 41, SO I'M ATTRACTED TO BOTH MEN AND WOMEN.
Um...
Huh?!
When Masako took the plunge and came out to a friend.
I'M GOING TO COME OUT TO MAKO TOMORROW!!
Ohhh?
THE TRUTH IS, I HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND
A simulation.
I want to tell Mako.
Of course there are also times when I've tried to come out and failed.
I'm baaack!
Whoa
SACHIKO, YOU GOTTA HEAR THIS!! I LIKE CALLED TO LIKE!
Huh?
Good for you...?
Whaaat? I can't hear youuu!!
U-UM... ER
I dare! I dare!
Quiver quiver
Beep!! She's crashed.
That day...
HUUUH? WHAT? WHAT?
UM, THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT

I couldn't tell her...
Geeez, what the
smack smack
HOW'S IT GOIN'?
Ah~ lurk.
NOT A BOYFRIEND-- A GIRLFRIEND
No wonder. For real?!
Lunch
HOW ABOUT YOU? GOT A BOY-FRIEND?
Time to dig in.
Hm~ ?
I WON'T MAKE A BIG DEAL OF IT BY SAYING I NEED TO TELL HER SOMETHING I'LL JUST SLIP IT INTO THE CONVERSATION!
I challenged myself to try it again.
I'll bring it up by asking if she has a boyfriend. Yeah
So I succeeded in coming out to Mako, and confirmed that our friendship was unshakable.
All's well that ends well.
OH, YEAH I FORGOT MAKO WAS LIKE THIS
AS LONG AS YOU'RE HAPPY, IT'S COOL WITH ME CONGRATS!
Thanks!
Good for you!
I SEE THAT'S THE SORT OF THING I'D EXPECT FROM YOU, THOUGH, SACHIKO
Oh?
Uh huh uh-huh
Slurrp

money

Coming Out


moved
Thanks
But it doesn't matter to me-- it doesn't change the fact that you're my friend
Um, I'm bi, and I have a girl-friend
A male friend
3 1
4 2
It's a little different from thaaat!
Don't worry!!
I'm not prejudiced against bi-linguals!
b a — m
Yeah, I know

Honey & Honey

Chapter 14

A Lilulicious Project
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Translated by: Sailor Avalon
Edited by: Quavento
QC'd by: sleekie, The Lory, Sailor Avalon, and Tiny Snowfairy

Coming Out to Friends
(Part B)

MAYBE IT'S THE ERA WE LIVE IN? I HOPE A TIME WILL COME SOMEDAY WHEN PEOPLE DON'T NEED TO HIDE IT AT ALL...
MY FRIENDS SAY THE SAME
We're blessed!
Coming out hasn't damaged one of my friendships yet
Hm hm.
I'm a Lesbian.
"Coming out" is to confess ones sexuality to a third party.
because coming out to someone can put them in a difficult position
WHAT DO I DO? SHE JUST TOLD ME SOMETHING HUGE. CAN I ASK HER QUESTIONS ABOUT IT? HOW SHOULD I REACT...?
I'M A LESBIAN
To tell you the truth
But I do ask myself if I really need to come out to certain friends...
Hmh?
I'VE SEEN HER SOMEWHERE BEFORE...
This happened once when Mariko and I went to an event in Nichoume
It's hard finding the right time to come out.
Yeah
I DON'T WANT TO DO THAT--- I'D FEEL BAD IF THEY FELT LIKE THEY HAD TO TREAT ME SPECIALLY AFTERWARDS
Gunc

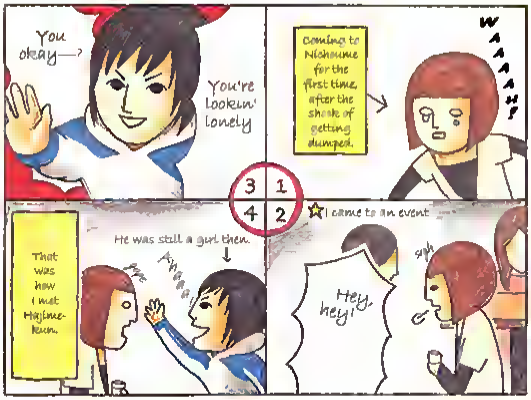
She was my classmate back in junior high
Huh!?
SACHIKO ?!
MIKA-CHAN!!
Oh!
Hm
We hardly ever heard from each other after that (laugh)
See you later
Bye!
Bye Bye!
We ended up coming out to each other at the same time, amazingly enough. And it came as such a shock that neither of us knew what to say— there was just this awkward silence.
Both of us brought our girlfriends with us
M-how ya been. ?
F-fine..
It happened when they were confirming his identity before an exam.
WHAT A PAIN
I'm that same person.
Uh
THIS IS A GIRL
But you're a man.
License.
FTM
He looks completely masculine.
My friend Kai-kun has a crazy coming-out story

snap
I'm telling you that's me. Take a good look at my face
annoyed
annoyed
Koto City
uh
URK! I'M GONNA BE LATE!!
The exam starts at 10
ONE MOMENT, PLEASE WE'LL CONFIRM YOUR ADDRESS
s it incorrect. ?
Apparently he thought the 'Good luck!' they called as he was leaving was intended to apply to his life in general.
Thaaanks
whoosh
Well, if that's how it is
GOOD LUCK!
G-GO ON IN
So he came out of the reception desk
So let me through already!
IT'S AN ILLNESS!!
I'M THE SAME PERSON!!
I'M A TRANNY!!
Whaaaat? gurk
Getting health checkups at school.
I WENT TO NICHOUME THE OTHER DAY AND MADE FRIENDS WITH SOME GAY PEOPLE!
Blood pressure
Wow
Coming out is nerve-wracking no matter when you do it
BECAUSE FTMS ARE MEN. BUT EITHER WAY, IT TAKES A LOT OF COURAGE TO COME OUT
Yeah
FTMS AND BIANS ARE BOTH SEXUAL MINORITIES. BUT THEY'RE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

HOW'S YOUR BOYFRIEND DOING, SACCHAN?
Uhhhm
GENDER DOESN'T MATTER WHEN IT COMES TO LOVE, RIGHT? THEY WERE ALL GOOD PEOPLE.
WHOA, NO WAY ?!
Straight: Has a boyfriend
Straight=heterosexual.
I SURE DIDN'T PLAN TO COME OUT RIGHT THEN, THOUGH!
sigh
I realized then that we're becoming a society where it's easier to come out. That made me happy.
OH, IS THAT ALL? YOU SHOULD'VE TOLD ME SOONER!
Thanks!
You surprised me!
I DON'T HAVE A BOYFRIEND-- I HAVE A GIRLFRIEND. THE TRUTH IS, I'M A BIAN.
Thanks?
Still, I can't help wishing that both people who come out and the people they come out to will act more naturally about it.
sigh
OH! 160 OVER 90
Shoooot
OH, MY YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE IS HIGH. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE NERVOUS. HM?
All right!
I'll measure it again.

honey

In Nichoume


You okay—?
You're lookin' lonely
Coming to Nishoume for the first time, after the shock of getting dumped.
WAAAAH!
3
1
4
2
I came to an event
That was how I met Hajime-kun.
He was still a girl then.
Hey, hey!

Honey & Honey

Chapter 15

A Lililicious Project
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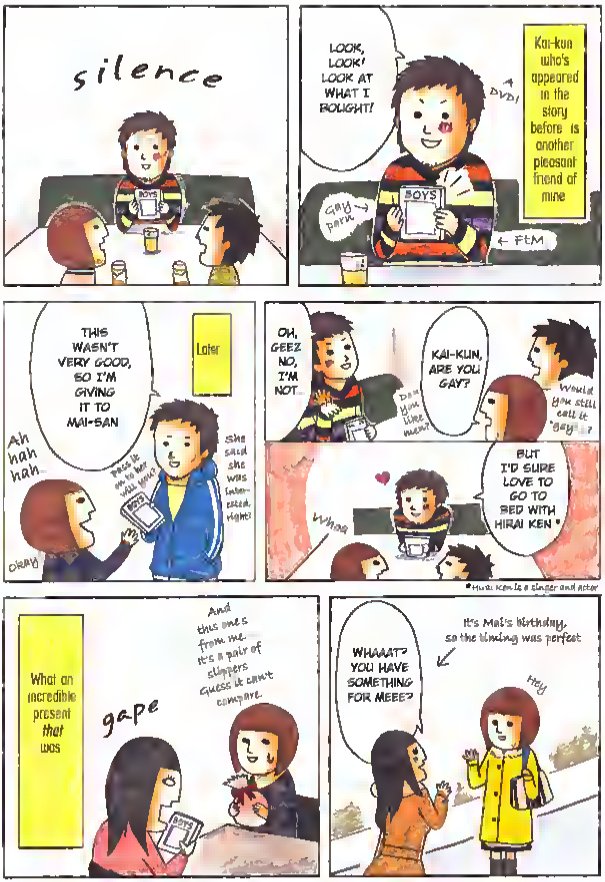
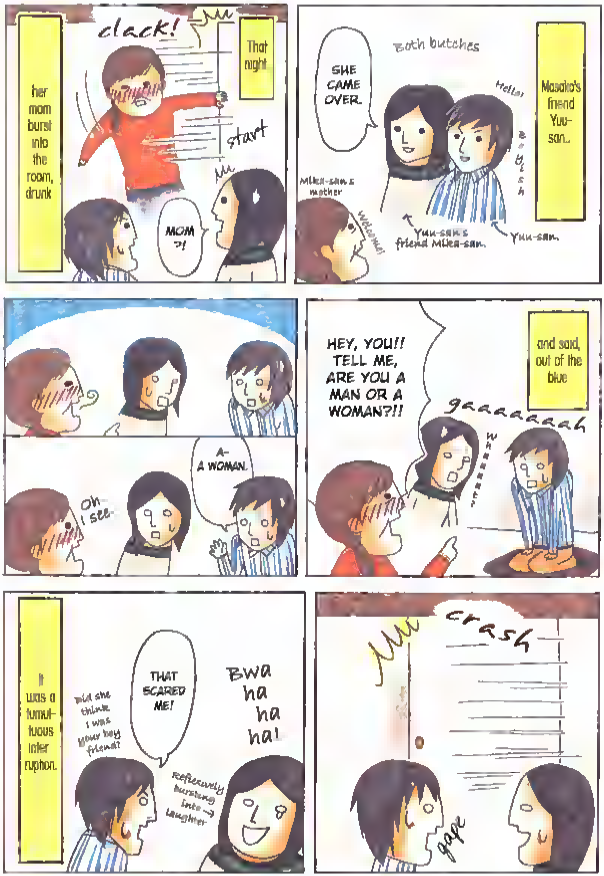
Translated by: Sailor Avalon
Edited by: Quivenio
QC'd by: sleekie,
The Lory,
Sailor Avalon,
and Tiny Snowfairy

Bian Friends

Femme. The person who plays the female role in a female-female relationship
I have friends that are couples but
Why is that?
The same.
And almost none of them are femmes.
FtM A person who's biologically female and identifies as a man.
I have more FtM San friends
The truth is I don't have many bian friends
FtM San
YOU MOVED BACK IN WITH THEM, RIGHT?
HEY KOU-KUN, WHAT DID YOU TELL YOUR PARENTS?
About your appearance
HEY, YOU TWO! YOU SHOULD EAT SOME MEAT, YOU'LL NEED YOUR STRENGTH LATER!!
dmp
Hanging out with fellow sexual minorities is a lot of fun, though They're interesting
At a drinking party
I still don't know if he was telling the truth
At all.
NO, THEY HAVE NO IDEA.
I see
Oh you think?
NO GIRL LOOKS LIKE THAT!
WHAAAT? BUT THEY MUST KNOW!
YOUR BEARD!!
They just haven't said any thing
ba——m
HM?
THEY DON'T KNOW


silence
LOOK, LOOK! LOOK AT WHAT I BOUGHT!
A DVD!
Kai-kun who's appeared in the story before is another pleasant friend of mine
Gay porn
FtM
Later
THIS WASN'T VERY GOOD, SO I'M GIVING IT TO MAI-SAN
Ah hah hah
She said she was interested, right?
OH, GEEZ NO, I'M NOT...
KAI-KUN, ARE YOU GAY?
Would you still call it "gay"?
BUT I'D SURE LOVE TO GO TO BED WITH HIRAI KEN *
Whoa
*Hirai Ken is a singer and actor
What an incredible present that was
gape
And this one's from me. It's a pair of slippers. Guess it can't compare.
WHAAAT? YOU HAVE SOMETHING FOR MEEE?
It's Mai's birthday, so the timing was perfect
Hey

So he went to the police station.
Oh no!
Another point on my license!
Gimme a freakin break!
Whaaaat?
Still in his work clothes
My bike's
GOOOne!!
Once, when we were out on the town together Kai-kun's bike got towed away.
OH! I'M... SORRY?
The sex?
THE SEX IS WRONG.
Oh.
M F
☆ Filling out paperwork at the police station.
PLEASE CHECK THIS OVER FOR MISTAKES
Uh-huh
Kai-kun is so grown up
KAI-KUN'S REALLY KEEPING HIS COOL.
The sex is wrong
Oh? But ? ? ? Hmm?
He's not getting through to him at all though
He told us to wait back here
You're female?
I'm female


her mom burst into the room, drunk
clack!
That night
start
MOM ?!
both butches
SHE CAME OVER.
Hello!
Masako's friend Yuu-san.
Mika-san's mother
Yuu-san's friend Mika-san.
Yuu-san.
A- A WOMAN.
Oh I see.
HEY, YOU!! TELL ME, ARE YOU A MAN OR A WOMAN?!!
and said, out of the blue
gaaaaaaah
It was a tumultuous interruption.
What she thinks I was your boy friend?
THAT SCARED ME!
BWA HA HA HA!
Reflexively bursting into laughter
crash
gape

*Saeko contains the character for "hajime."

Honey & Honey

Chapter 16

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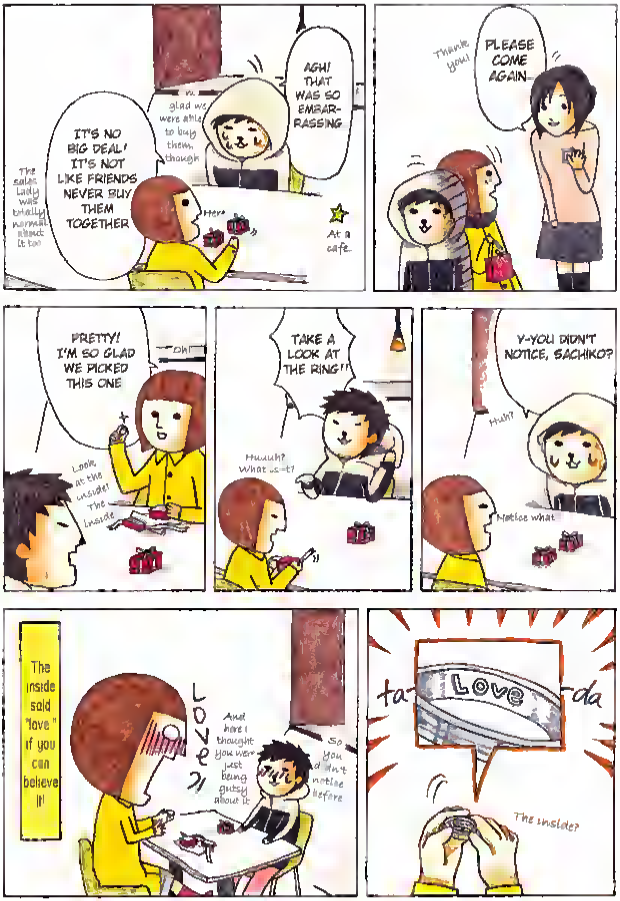
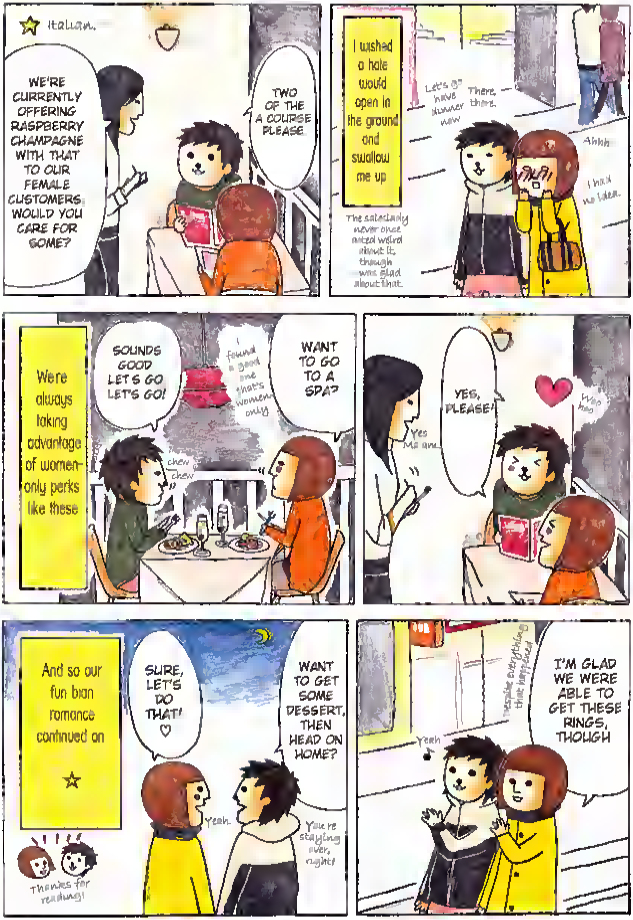
Masako and Sachiko's Future

December
IT'S CHRISTMAS DAY
Awwww
uh huh
Awakened by feras
December
It's Christmas
HEY SACHIKO!
A pair of rings
We could get matching ones for christmas
HEY, WANNA COME BUY A RING WITH ME?
HOW ABOUT WE EACH BUY ONE, THEN EXCHANGE THEM?
Let's let s!
They'll be the same thing, but...
That sounds nice
Masako's being romantic, for once
We have a dinner reservation tonight, too
Ohhh

I can't afford them either.
OH, BUT PLACES LIKE HERMÈS ARE OUT, OKAY?!
Mm
Hmm
Getting ready to go out
ANYWHERE'S FINE WITH ME LET'S HEAD TO SHINJUKU FIRST
WHERE SHOULD WE BUY THEM?
Look at this one! Isn't it pretty?
Oh! You're right.
OH! Y-YES, PLEASE.
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO TAKE IT OUT FOR YOU?
I can also measure your size.
Jewelry
We arrived at the accessories department
Platinum platform
Masako was all wound up
wander wander
WE'LL TAKE TWO OF THAT SAME DESIGN GIFT-WRAPPED PLEASE
For purchase
Yes Ma'am. Thank you.
HOW ABOUT WE GO WITH THIS ONE? IT'S THE CUTEST RING...
whisper
Yeah
Yeah!
YOU'RE BOTH SIZE 9S


The salon lady was totally normal about it too
IT'S NO BIG DEAL! IT'S NOT LIKE FRIENDS NEVER BUY THEM TOGETHER
Hm glad we were able to buy them, though
AGH! THAT WAS SO EMBARRASSING
Here
At a cafe
Thank you!
PLEASE COME AGAIN
PRETTY! I'M SO GLAD WE PICKED THIS ONE
Oh!
Look at the outside! The inside
TAKE A LOOK AT THE RING!!
Huuuh? What is it?
Y-YOU DIDN'T NOTICE, SACHIKO?
Huh?
Notice what
The inside said "love." If you can believe it!
LOVE?
And here I thought you were just being cutesy about it
So you didn't notice before
Love
The inside?


Italian.
WE'RE CURRENTLY OFFERING RASPBERRY CHAMPAGNE WITH THAT TO OUR FEMALE CUSTOMERS. WOULD YOU CARE FOR SOME?
TWO OF THE A COURSE PLEASE.
I wished a hole would open in the ground and swallow me up
Let's go have dinner now
There, there.
Ahhh
I had no idea.
The salesbody never once acted weird about it, though was glad about that.
We're always taking advantage of women-only perks like these
SOUNDS GOOD LET'S GO LET'S GO!
I found a good one that's women only
WANT TO GO TO A SPA?
chew chew
YES, PLEASE!
Yes Ma'am
Woo hoo
And so our fun bian romance continued on
SURE, LET'S DO THAT! ♡
WANT TO GET SOME DESSERT, THEN HEAD ON HOME?
Yeah.
You're staying over, right!
Thanks for reading!
I'M GLAD WE WERE ABLE TO GET THESE RINGS, THOUGH
Yeah

Afterword

I first began this manga in order to enter *Da Vinci* magazine's "Comic Essay Petit Award" competition. I won a small award in the contest, and everything started from there: I began drawing more of the manga for online serialization at the "Comic Essay Theater" website, and that work was later collected into this book.

I've always enjoyed drawing manga, and wanted to make something of that, but I had no idea that dream would come true so soon. I'm grateful and thrilled that *Honey & Honey* has been turned into a book.

While *Honey & Honey* was being serialized online, I received a lot of emails from people who encouraged me and shared their thoughts on the work. I was pleased to receive every single one, and they were a great source of encouragement.

When its serialization first began, I expected to encounter bias against lesbians and harsh opinions like, "I don't understand it," and, "It's gross!" However, I didn't receive a single such letter, just praise and encouragement like, "It was interesting," and "Keep at it!" Women, men, straight people, bians, people from young to old... you all encouraged me to continue. I'd like to take this opportunity to offer you my gratitude. Thank you all, truly.

When you draw a work like this, a lot of people tell you, "A woman's happiness is to be bound to a man." But I think happiness is something that can only come from within oneself.

If someone is unhappy due to adversity, then yes, she should be saved; but no matter what the situation, as long as the person in question believes she's happy, then surely she *has* found true happiness. I've never once found it difficult to be a bian. So-called "normal romance" was much harder for me....

I think that as long as one is confident in one's own happiness, regardless of the form it takes, it must be true.

In conclusion, a big thanks to Hajime-kun, Kai-kun, and Mai for all of their help with this manga. Thank you as well to my ex-girlfriends.

I'm also indebted to my editor, Matsuda-san. Thank you. And most of all, I'm grateful to all of you who have read this far.

To my dearest Masako: This work would not exist if it weren't for you. Thanks!

The bian world, forever! (laugh)

4/2006 Takeuchi Sachiko

Honey & Honey

Chapter 17

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